

Filed for intro on 02/22/95  
Senate Bill \_\_\_\_\_  
By \_\_\_\_\_

House No. HB1638  
By Ritchie, II

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44,  
Part 1, relative to open public meetings.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

Section 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 8, Chapter 44, is amended by adding the following new sections thereto:

Section \_\_\_\_\_. All meetings required by this act to be public shall be held at specified times and places within the territorial jurisdiction of the public body and which are accessible and convenient to the public. No meeting required by this act to be public shall be held on a legal holiday unless the regular meeting day falls on that holiday.

Section \_\_\_\_\_. Subject to the provisions of law relative to the rights of witnesses at proceedings conducted by a court, commission, administrative agency or other tribunal in this state which are televised or broadcasted or at which motion pictures are taken, any person may record the proceedings at meetings required to be open by this act by tape, film or other means. The authority holding the meeting may prescribe reasonable rules to govern the right to make such recordings.

If a witness at any meeting required to be open by this act which is conducted by a commission, administrative agency or other tribunal, refuses to testify on the grounds

that such witness may not be compelled to testify if any portion of his testimony is to be broadcasted or televised or if motion pictures are to be taken of him while he is testifying, the authority holding the meeting shall prohibit such recording during the testimony of the witness. Nothing in this section shall be construed to extend the right to refuse to testify at any meeting not subject to such provisions.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 1995, the public welfare requiring it.

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